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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/903,393	07/10/2001	Keith D. Allen	R-387	9468

7590 08/19/2003

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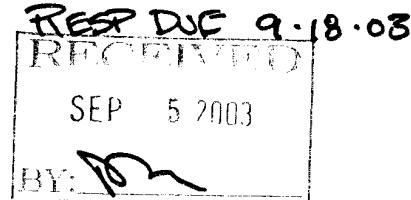
EXAMINER

SHUKLA, RAM R

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
1632	8

DATE MAILED: 08/19/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.



O P E R A T I O N S

SEP 22 2003

Office Action Summary

Application No.	Applicant(s)
09/903,393	ALLEN, KEITH D.
Examiner	Art Unit
Ram R. Shukla	1632

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.

2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-29 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) ____ is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.

8) Claim(s) 1-29 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

11) The proposed drawing correction filed on ____ is: a) approved b) disapproved by the Examiner.

If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.

12) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

13) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) All b) Some * c) None of:

1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).

a) The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

15) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

Attachment(s)

1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)	4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). ____
2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)	5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) ____.	6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____

DETAILED ACTION

1. Claims 1-29 are pending.

Election/Restrictions

2. Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under 35 U.S.C.

121:

- I. Claims 1-7, drawn to a targeting construct for interrupting the limulus clotting factor protease-like gene and a cell wherein the expression of its endogenous limulus clotting factor protease-like gene is disrupted due to the integration of the targeting construct, classified in class 435, subclass 325.
- II. Claims 13-15, 25 and 26, drawn to a method of screening for agents that modulate the expression of limulus clotting factor protease-like gene using a cell whose endogenous limulus clotting factor protease-like gene is disrupted, classified in class 435, subclass 4.
- III. Claims 8-12, 15 and 17-24, drawn to a transgenic mouse comprising a disruption in its endogenous limulus clotting factor protease-like gene and a method of screening for agents using the transgenic mouse, classified in class 800, subclass 3.
- IV. Claims 16, 27 and 28, drawn to an agent that modulates the expression of the limulus clotting factor protease-like gene, classified in class 536, subclass 1.
- V. Claims 29, drawn to a method of treating a disease associated with susceptibility to seizures by administering a compound that modulates the function, expression or activity of the limulus clotting factor protease-like gene, classified in class 514, subclass 1.

3. The inventions of Groups II and III encompass the limitations of the claim 15. Should any of these groups be elected for prosecution, the invention of claim 15 would be examined to the extent it encompasses the claimed invention.

4. The inventions are distinct, each from the other because of the following reasons:

Inventions I, II and III are related as product and process of use. The inventions can be shown to be distinct if either or both of the following can be shown: (1) the process for using the product as claimed can be practiced with another materially different product or (2) the product as claimed can be used in a materially different process of using that product (MPEP § 806.05(h)). In the instant case, the targeting construct of group I is used to make cells which can be used for screening of compounds (invention of group II) or they can be used for making transgenic mouse (invention of group III). Alternately, the cells of group I can be directly produced by introducing the targeting vector in a cell or they can be isolated from the transgenic animals of group III. Additionally, the compositions of the groups I and III have different structure, function and utilities and will require separate searches in the non-patent and patent literature. Therefore, the inventions of the groups I-III are patentably distinct and will require distinct search in the patent and non-patent literature.

Inventions IV and V are related as product and process of use. The inventions can be shown to be distinct if either or both of the following can be shown: (1) the process for using the product as claimed can be practiced with another materially different product or (2) the product as claimed can be used in a materially different process of using that product (MPEP § 806.05(h)). In the instant case, the agents of the group IV are used in the treatment method of group V. However, the method of group V can be practiced with other compositions such as limulus clotting actor protease-like gene protein or the nucleic acid encoding it.

Inventions of the groups II and IV are related as process of making and product made. The inventions are distinct if either or both of the following can be shown: (1) that the process as claimed can be used to make other and materially different product or (2) that the product as claimed can be made by another and materially different process (MPEP § 806.05(f)). In the instant case the products of IV can be prepared by using the cells of group I or the transgenic animals of group III.

5. Because these inventions are distinct for the reasons given above, have acquired a separate status in the art shown by their different classification and their recognized divergent subject matter, and because each invention requires a separate, non-coextensive search, restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper.

Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include an election of the invention to be examined even though the requirement be traversed (37 CFR 1.143).

Applicant is reminded that upon the cancellation of claims to a non-elected invention, the inventorship must be amended in compliance with 37 CFR 1.48(b) if one or more of the currently named inventors is no longer an inventor of at least one claim remaining in the application. Any amendment of inventorship must be accompanied by a petition under 37 CFR 1.48(b) and by the fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(i).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Ram R. Shukla whose telephone number is (703) 305-1677. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday from 7:30 am to 4:00 p.m. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Deborah Reynolds, can be reached on (703) 305-4051. The fax phone number for TC 1600 is (703) 703-872-9306. Any inquiry of a general nature, formal matters or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the William Phillips whose telephone number is (703) 305-3413.



RAM R. SHUKLA, PH.D.
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Ram R. Shukla, Ph.D.
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 1632